तथा सुपात्र विद्यार्थियों को सहायता देने के लिए कई उपाय किये गये हैं, जो इस प्रकार हैं:

(i) एक कॉलेज में कुल विद्यार्थियों में से 20% को शुल्क में रियायत देना;

(ii) पुस्तकों तथा अन्य उपयोगी वस्तुओं के रूप में सहायता देने के लिए कॉलेजों में विद्यार्थी सहायता निधि तैयार करना; (iii) अनुसूचित जाति / अनुसूचित जनजाति विद्यार्थियों को छात्रवृत्ति प्रदान करने की योजना के अंतर्गत सरकार द्वारा शुल्क की प्रतिपूर्ति करना (iv) बस का निशुल्क पास तथा (v) पात्र मामलों में कॉलेजों द्वारा कुछ शुल्कों को माफ करना।

Survey of New Railway lines in Orissa

1447. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey has been completed for the construction of some new railway lines in Orissa;

(b) if so, the lines for which survey has been completed so far;

(c) whether Government have selected some of those proposed lines for construction during 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details of the survey report received and the recommendations made by Traffic-Cum-Engineering Survey team on the implementation of those lines; and

(e) the action initiated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Haridaspur-Paradeep new line.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. This work has been included in the budget, 96-97.

Educational Upliftment of Muslims

1448. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government for the educational upliftment of the Muslims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): The National Policy on Education, 1986 as updated in 1992 and its Programme of Action recognise Muslims as educationally backward minorities. The Programme of Action was tabled in the House on 19th August, 1992. There are programmes for upliftment of educationally backward minorities such as Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities, Modernisation of Madarsa Education, Community Polytechnics, Coaching classes for Educationally Backward Minorities and Training of Minority educational insititution personnel.

Provision of Basic Amenities to Settlers on Railway Land in Mumbai

1449. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of Railways be please to state:

(a) what action Government are taking to provide basic amenities to the lakhs of people settled for more than fifty years on railway land in Mumbai;

(b) what is the reason for not agreeing to the basic demand for electricity and water; and

(c) by when Government will settle this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Settling / rehabilitating the slum dwellers, who are unauthorisedly occupying Railway land, is not the responsibility of the Railways. Therefore, the matter of providing basic civic amenities to these encroachers by railway does not arise.

Reforms in Agricultural Sector

1450. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced any reforms in the agricultural sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating therein the benefits accrued after introduction of the reforms; and

(c) if no benefit have accrued, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The reforms carried out in the agriculture sector include liberalization of inter-state movement of foodgrains, promotion of exports of agricultural commodities, greater focus on development of oilseeds and pulses, promoting cropping system approach for increasing crop production, greater access to commodities etc. These reforms have helped in improvement of agricultural productivity and production.

Study by Tobacco Development Council

1451. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tabacco Development Council has done any study on the economic feasibility of conversion of tobacco to other crops; and

(b) if so, when was this study done and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Income from Sale of Passenger Tickets

1452. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total income of the Railways by sale of passenger tickets last year;

(b) what is the total income by sale of tickets for journeys to and from Kerala; and

(c) what is the amount spent for the development of Railways in Kerala last year and the total amount spent for all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The total income of the Railways sale of passenger tickets last year under:

Year	(Amounts in of Rs.)
1995-96	6124.49

(b) and (c) State-wise information is not maintained in this regard.

Special Support Programme for Small Farmers

1453. SHRI DR.B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn a Special Support Programme for the small farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how these have benefited the small farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUAL-TURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation help the farmers both indirectly and directly. In the former case, the farmers are helped through infra-structural development. In the latter case, there are individual oriented schemes like assistance for weaker sections/women cooperatives, subsidy on transportation of seeds for remote areas and North-Eastern, concessional sale of fertilizers. In addition, subsidy on inputs, demonstrations on farmers' fields, extension training for farmers, subsidy on drip irrigation/sprinkler irrigation are covered under crop oriented and horticulture development programmes.

There are certain area development schemes like national Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas, Soil Conservation in River Valley Projects,

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